

CALIFORNIA COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING

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OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

99-9908

Date: March 26, 1999

To: Deans, Coordinators, Directors and Credential Personnel at Colleges and Universities with Special Education Programs and the Special Education Local Plan Areas

From: Sam W. Swofford, Ed. D.
Executive Director

Subject: Completion of coursework for the Specialist Instruction Teaching Credentials (Learning, Severely, Communication, Physically, and Visually Handicapped Specialist); the Resource Specialist Certificate; and an update on accredited programs

The Commission would like to clarify two issues pertaining to the transition from the Specialist Instruction Credential program (Learning Handicapped, Severely Handicapped, etc.) to the Education Specialist Instruction Credential programs (Mild/Moderate, Moderate/Severe, etc.).

Last Day to Recommend for the Specialist Instruction Credential

As you are aware, all candidates who are completing the Specialist Instruction Credential must have been enrolled in the program prior to June 30, 1998. The field has requested clarification to determine when these individuals must complete the program and the last date an institution may recommend the candidate for the Specialist Instruction Credential. Title 5 regulation §80048.2(d)(2) states that June 30, 2001 is the last day an institution may recommend a California candidate for the Specialist Instruction Credential. Therefore, candidates that enrolled in the Specialist Instruction Credential programs prior to June 30, 1998 have until June 30, 2001 to complete the program.

Although the Commission set deadlines for colleges and universities to have the Education Specialist Instruction standards and programs in place by June 30, 1999, it was never the intention to not allow candidates who are in the process of completing Specialist Instruction programs to complete the programs. The Commission encourages colleges and universities to continue the availability of coursework and supervision of the practicum or to provide equivalent coursework for candidates completing the Specialist Instruction program.

Current Status of Resource Specialist Programs and Local Assessor Panels

The Commission made the policy decision in 1993 that Resource Specialist Local Assessor Panels would *not* be discontinued until sometime after the new Preliminary Level I and Professional Level II Education Specialist Credential structure is fully implemented in colleges and universities across the state. The new Title 5 regulations do not address the resource specialist because as long as there is a continuing need, evidenced by approximately 1500 Resource Specialist emergency permits issued in 1997-98, the Commission believes that the Resource Specialist Local Assessor panels should remain an option available to candidates.

The original intent was for all campus-based Resource Specialist programs to be discontinued when an institution was accredited to offer the new Education Specialist program or by June 30, 1999 at the latest. There continues to be a demonstrated need for candidates to have access to resource specialist coursework as many individuals are serving on emergency permits. In addition, some institutions have inquired as to whether they could continue to grant equivalency for coursework under the new credential structure or offer resource specialist courses through university extension. Institutions may continue to recommend for the Resource Specialist Certificate until the Commission has studied the issue and proposed amending Title 5 regulations.

Reminder

Credential holders with old Ryan, Standard, and General credentials authorized to serve students in a special day class are not automatically authorized to serve students in a resource specialist capacity. They must complete a Resource Specialist university preparation program or complete the requirements through a Resource Specialist Local Assessor panel.

All of the new Education Specialist Instruction Credentials authorize service across the continuum of program options available pursuant to state law, so the add-on Resource Specialist Certificate of Competence is not required for new Education Specialist Credential holders. Resource specialist competencies have been infused throughout the Preliminary Level I and Professional Level II Standards. Education Specialist Credential holders are authorized to serve students in resource rooms, special day classrooms, special schools, home/hospital settings, correctional facilities, non-public, non-sectarian schools and agencies, and alternative instructional settings other than classrooms.

Approved Programs

Attached to this correspondence is an updated grid displaying colleges and universities with accredited Education Specialist Instruction programs.

For further information about the topics discussed in this correspondence, please contact the Commission's Information Services Unit at (916) 445-7256 between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm, weekdays, or by e-mail at credentials@ctc.ca.gov.

**COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES WITH ACCREDITED
NEW EDUCATION SPECIALIST INSTRUCTION CREDENTIAL PROGRAMS
3/99**

CSU System	IN	L I	L II	M/M	M/S	DHH	PHI	VI	EC SE	ECSE Cert
CSPU Pomona	X*	X		X	X					
CSPU San Luis Obispo		X		X	X					
CSU Bakersfield		X		X	X					
CSU Chico	X**	X	X	X	X					X
CSU Dominguez Hills	X*	X	X	X	X				X	X
CSU Fresno		X		X	X					
CSU Fullerton	X**	X	X	X	X				X	X
CSU Hayward		X		X	X					
CSU Long Beach	X*	X		X	X					
CSU Los Angeles	X*	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	
CSU Northridge	X*	X	X	X	X	X			X	
CSU Sacramento	X*	X	X	X	X					
CSU San Bernardino	X**	X	X	X	X					
CSU San Marcos	X*	X		X	X					
CSU Stanislaus		X		X	X					
Humboldt State University		X		X						
San Diego State University		X		X	X	X	X		X	
San Francisco State University		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
San Jose State University	X	X		X	X	X			X ¹	X
Sonoma State University		X		X	X					

UC System

UC Riverside	X*	X	X	X	X					
UC San Diego		X				X				

Private/Independent Institutions

Azusa Pacific University		X		X						
California Lutheran University		X		X	X					
Chapman University		X		X	X					
Fresno Pacific University	X*	X		X	X		X			
Holy Names College		X		X						
Loyola-Marymount University		X		X						
Mount St. Mary's		X		X						
National University		X		X	X					
Pt. Loma Nazarene University		X	X	X						
St. Mary's College		X		X	X					
Santa Clara University	X**	X	X	X					X	X
University of the Pacific	X*	X		X	X					
University of San Francisco	X**	X	X	X						
University of Southern Calif.		X	X			X				

KEY:

IN = Internships: * = Internship leads to Level I; ** = Internship leads to Level II credential

L I = Preliminary Level I Education Specialist

L II = Professional Clear Level II Education Specialist

M/M = Mild/Moderate Disabilities

M/S = Moderate/Severe Disabilities

DHH = Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing

PHI = Physical and Health Impairments

VI = Visual Impairments

ECSE = Early Childhood Special Education

ECSE Cert = ECSE Certificate

¹IHE with a Level II program for ECSE only.